

"Big Dreams Small Business" NEWS

Pilot Small Business Mall for Federal Agencies Launches April 3

Federal agencies have an opportunity to shop for information technology products and services specifically from Small and Disadvantaged businesses on the new GSA, FTS web site smallbizmall.gov

This E-Commerce mall is the first of its kind in the federal marketplace to provide small and disadvantaged businesses the opportunity to fulfill orders via the web.

The mall began with a pilot program on April 3, with nine industry partners who hold Multiple Award Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (MAIDIQ) Contracts with the FTS

Small Business Center in Kansas City, Missouri. The pilot will run through June 2000. At that time, all 164 MAI DI Q vendors will be invited to participate in the electronic mall.

"We hope that agencies will see the advantage that a small business mall can bring," said Mary Parks, Director of the Small Business Center, Solution Development Center.

CeKa, an 8(a) company located in

Vienna, Virginia, along with onlinesuppliers.com corporation (OLS) have developed an acquisition method and system for SmallBizMall.gov called Acquisition 2000 Plus ^{TM.}

This technology provides Government buyers several benefits:

- Comparison shopping, quantity discounts and special pricing
- Secure transaction processing
- Online account management

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